Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 21092 211717Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 CU-04 /075 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4195
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

CONFIDENTIAL BONN 21092

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, BQG

SUBJECT: GERMAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION

REFS: (A) BONN 20248; (B) BONN 19068; (C) USBER 171 NOTAL

BEGIN SUMMARY: THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE CHANCELLOR TO CONSIDER THE QUESTION OF A GERMAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION HAS DECIDED THAT THE PROJECT SHOULD BE PURSUED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO AVOID PROBLEMS RELATED TO THE STATUS OF BERLIN. END SUMMARY.

1. AT THE DECEMBER 20 BONN GROUP MEETING, FRG REP VON BRAUNMUEHL REPORTED ON THE RESULTS OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE BRIEFING TO THE COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL STIFTUNG (REF A). FOREIGN OFFICE POLITICAL DIRECTOR BLECH MET WITH FRG MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR MAIHOFER, GOVERNING MAYOR STOBBE OF BERLIN AND MINISTER-PRESIDENTS STOLTENBERG (SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN), VOGEL CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 21092 211717Z

(RHINELAND- PALATINATE)L AND BOERNER (HESSE) ON DECEMBER 16.
BASED ON BLECH'S PRESENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL
ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM, THE COMMITTEE AGREED THAT
THE IDEA OF A CULTURAL FOUNDATION SHOULD BE FORMALLY
MAINTAINED, BUT PURSUED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO AVOID
BERLIN PROBLEMS

- 2. AS THE COMMITTEE FORESEES IT, THE FOUNDATION WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE AS A PROGRAM ESTABLISHED ON THE BASIS OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS. IT WILL OPERATE UNDER THE STIFTUNG PREUSSISCHER KULTURBESITZ (PRUSSIAN ART TREASURES). AS A PROGRAM, IT WILL NOT HAVE A SEAT AS SUCH; THE FEDERAL PRESIDENT WILL NOT BE INVOLVED, NOR WILL "NATIONAL" BE A PART OF THE PROGRAM'S NAME.
- 3. VON BRAUNMUEHL SAID THAT THE COMMITTEE AGREED TO CONTINUE WORKING ON DETAILS OF THE FOUNDATION, BUT POLITICAL AGREEMENT ON ITS NATURE HAD BEEN REACHED. HE SAID THAT THIS WAS ONLY PRELIMINARY INFORMATION AND ASKED THAT IT BE HELD IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE. HE PROMISED TO KEEP THE ALLIES INFORMED OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS. STOESSEL

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